



#17

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 18781-003910

Client Reference No.: T99-018-1

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Holger Wesche, *et al.*

Application No.: 09/759,595

Filed: January 11, 2001

For: IRAK-4: COMPOSITIONS AND
METHODS OF USE

Art Unit: 1646

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A1 --The IL-1 signal transduction cascade is analogous to a signaling cascade in *Drosophila melanogaster* that is involved in the establishment of dorsal ventral polarity during the early development of *Drosophila* embryos. Specifically, in *Drosophila*, the extracellular ligand Spaetzle binds to a receptor called Toll, which shares homology to IL-1R. In addition, a serine/threonine kinase acting downstream of Toll activation, Pelle is homologous to IRAK kinases (Cao, *et al.*, *Science* 271:1128-1131 (1996); Muzio, *et al.*, *Science* 278:1612-1615 (1997); Wesche, *et al.*, *J. Biol. Chem.* 274:19403-19410 (1999)). Finally, activation of the Toll receptor results in the activation of the transcription factor Dorsal, which is homologous to NF-